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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/439,890	11/12/1999	TAKESHI SUZUKI	P/3541-3	2252

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EXAMINER

CHUNG, DANIEL J

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2672

DATE MAILED: 10/23/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/439,890

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI, TAKESHI

Examiner

Daniel J Chung

Art Unit

2672

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 August 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-11 are presented for examination. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on 8-6-2002.

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Norris (6,147,768) in view of Tagami et al (5,402,171).

Regarding claim 1, Norris discloses that the claimed feature of an image reproduction apparatus comprising:

Display image discrimination means for discriminating a display mode in which selected image data is to be displayed, the display mode including at least a normal display mode ["visually displaying the photographs in database"] (See Abstract line 5-6, col 2 line 2), an at a glance display mode [displaying the photographs with configuration

for a page of the album] (See Abstract line 6-16, col 2 line 2-10, Fig 3) and a panoramic display mode ["slide show"] (See Abstract line 16-19, col 2 line 10-11, col 7 line 19-48); display mode setting means for setting the display mode, which is discriminated by the display image discrimination means, to the image data; display means for displaying the image data in the display mode set by the display mode setting means. (See Abstract, Fig 4, col 1 line 57-col 3 line 5)

Norris does not specifically disclose that "a panoramic display mode" for selected image data. However, such limitation is shown in the teaching of Tagami et al. (See Fig 49-52, Fig 57-63, col 25 line 10-col 27 line 16) It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to incorporate the teaching of Tagami et al into the teaching of Norris, in order to allow an operator to alter the image output range, when image data/system has a wider output range of reproduced images than the display area of a display device (See col 3 line 45-48 in Tagami), as such improvement is also advantageously desirable in the teaching of Norris for handling a image data, which has bigger or different size than display area.

Regarding claim 2, Norris discloses that the display mode setting means includes means for appropriately setting a location and size of each image data to be displayed and laying out all images within a designated display area when the display image

discrimination means discriminates that the image data is to be displayed at a glance.

(See Abstract line 6-16, col 2 line 2-10, Fig 3)

Regarding claim 3, Norris discloses that the display image discrimination means includes means for discriminating that the image data is a panoramic image when the aspect ratio of the image data differs from that of a display area of a display device.

(See Abstract line 16-19, col 2 line 10-11, col 7 line 19-48; Also See Fig 50, Fig 52 in Tagami et al)

Regarding claim 4, Norris discloses that the display mode setting means includes means for performing a scroll operation of a panoramic image in a display area using a frame advance button [53 in Tagami] when the display image discrimination means discriminates that the image data is to be displayed panoramically. (See Abstract line 16-19, col 2 line 10-11, col 7 line 19-48; Also See Fig 49, Fig 50, Fig 52 in Tagami et al)

Regarding claim 5, Norris discloses that the display mode setting means includes means for, when the frame advance button is operated again after the scroll operation of the panoramic image is completed, starting a scroll operation of a subsequent panoramic image automatically. (See Abstract line 16-19, col 2 line 10-11, col 7 line 19-48; Also See Fig 49, Fig 50, Fig 52 in Tagami et al)

Regarding claim 6, Norris discloses that the display means includes means for switching a scroll display mode for scrolling a panoramic image and a frame advance display mode for advancing images frame by frame. (See Abstract line 16-19, col 2 line 10-11, col 7 line 19-48; Also See Fig 49, Fig 50, Fig 52 in Tagami et al)

Regarding claim 7, Norris discloses that the display means includes means for switching an entire reduced image display mode in which a panoramic image is reduced as it is and the reduced panoramic image is displayed at once within a display area and a scroll display mode in which a panoramic image of a normal size is scrolled and displayed. (See Abstract line 16-19, col 2 line 10-11, col 7 line 19-48; Also See Fig 49, Fig 50, Fig 52, Fig 57-63 in Tagami et al)

Regarding claim 8, Norris discloses that the display means includes means for clearly displaying whether an image displayed in a display area is part or all of the image data. (See Abstract line 16-19, col 2 line 10-11, col 7 line 19-48; Also See Fig 49, Fig 50, Fig 52 in Tagami et al)

Regarding claim 9, Norris discloses that the display means includes means for performing a superimposed display to show which portion of a panoramic image is currently displayed in a display area when the panoramic image is scrolled in a normal size. (See Abstract line 16-19, col 2 line 10-11, col 7 line 19-48; Also See Fig 49, Fig 50, Fig 52 in Tagami et al)

Regarding claim 10, Norris discloses that the display means has a divided image stepping display mode in which a panoramic image is divided into a plurality of area and the area are advanced frame by frame and displayed step by step when an aspect ratio of the panoramic image is plural times larger than that of a display area. (See Abstract line 16-19, col 2 line 10-11, col 7 line 19-48; Also See Fig 49, Fig 50, Fig 52 in Tagami et al)

Regarding claim 11, Norris discloses that a single/overall image display mode switching means for, when a panoramic image is displayed in a display area, switching between a single image display mode and an overall imaged display, the single image display mode performing a single image display including a representative image display and a reduced image display, and the overall image display mode performing an overall image display including a divided image stepping display and a scroll display. (See Abstract line 16-19, col 2 line 10-11, col 7 line 19-48; Also See Fig 49, Fig 50, Fig 52 in Tagami et al)

Response to Arguments/Amendments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment ["normal display mode, an at-a-glance display mode and a panoramic display mode"] necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Chung whose telephone number is (703) 306-3419. He can normally be reached Monday-Thursday and alternate Fridays from 7:30am- 5:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael, Razavi, can be reached at (703) 305-4713.

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Any response to this action should be mailed to:

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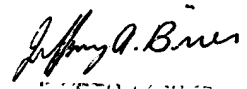
or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal
Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or
proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office
whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

djc
October 15, 2002


JEFFERY BINES
PRIMARY EXAMINER